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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Hungary

SUBJECT Soviet Troops in Cegléd

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. There is a Soviet heavy armored regiment in the armored barracks on Törteli Street, with a total strength of about 1,400 men. The soldiers belong to the young and active classes; they wear black and red shoulder boards with tank insignia. The regiment consists of two battalions, with 70 to 72 J.S.III tanks.

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The regimental auto park includes 4 radio cars, 4 tank cars, 8 to 10 armored tank-recovery vehicles, 25 to 30 motorcycles, 10 to 14 jeeps, 32 to 35 trucks, mostly ZIS's and Ford.

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2. During the spring of 1953 the regiment staged many night alarms. On such occasions heavy equipment was almost always marched out.

3. In recent weeks there has been great traffic activity, and some Soviets told Hungarian acquaintances that a new unit was expected.

4. There is a Soviet armored regiment in the old cavalry barracks, about 1,500 to 1,550 men strong. It consists mostly of quite new and young recruits. It has two battalions, with 8 to 10 German Tiger tanks and 44 to 46 T-3485s. The auto park contains 4 Pobeda personnel cars, 5 to 6 jeeps, 22 to 25 motorcycles without sidecars. There are 18 to 22 trucks, including old Chevrolets and Dodges, 2 ambulances, 4 tank cars, 4 radio cars on Ford chassis, 3 shop cars, 4 to 5 Stalinez armored cars.

5. The regiment marches out almost daily for exercises on foot in units of company strength. These are usually followed by 7 to 9 tanks. In April 1953 the regiment conducted a four-day exercise, and later undertook a loading exercise at night at the freight station, working under a complete blackout. In recent weeks the regiment has conducted exercises near Cegléd, using rockets and smoke projectors. At other times street fighting exercises are conducted in the city at night.

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